

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. SD-6769.1/S96421
SERIAL NO. 09/970,912
PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-5 and 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 4,969,190 to Takaragi, et al. ("Takaragi"), in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,432,849 to Johnson, et al. ("Johnson").

Claims 6-11 and 16-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takaragi in view of Johnson and in further view of *Applied Cryptography Second Edition, 1996* by Bruce Schneier ("Schneier").

In response to Applicants arguments filed March 16, 2005 relative to Takaragi, the Examiner has stated that "[t]he recitation multistage pipelined encryptor operating at its full information processing potential "enhancing the throughput of pipelined encryption/decryption engine" has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble.

Further in response to Applicants arguments filed March 16, 2005 relative to Takaragi, the Examiner has stated that "the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., a multistage pipelined encryptor operating at its full information processing potential) are not recited in the rejected claim(s) 1 and 12."

In response to Applicants arguments filed March 16, 2005 relative to Takaragi in combination with Johnson, the Examiner has stated that "the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., how to use cryptographic variables, such as initial vectors and keys, in order to keep the pipeline of a crypto block fully filled, thereby enhancing throughput) are not recited in the rejected claims(s)."

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In response to Applicants arguments filed March 16, 2005 relative to Takaragi in combination with Johnson or Schneier, the Examiner disagreed with the applicant based on the reasons set forth previously in the Office Action relative to Takaragi and Takaragi in combination with Johnson.

Applicants have amended the claims herein to include the features the Examiner has indicated were previously missing. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1-21 in light of the current amendment and the arguments presented in Applicants' response filed March 16, 2005.


Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 7-11 and 17-21, as originally submitted, include the element of "a plurality of encryption/decryption contexts, *a number of which equals or exceeds the predetermined number of stages*" which the Examiner has not noted in any of the preceding office actions nor has this element been described in Takaragi, Johnson, or Schneier. Applicants respectfully submit that Takaragi, alone or in combination with Johnson and/or Schneier, does not teach or suggest the exemplary features of the present invention

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-21 are allowable and requests notice to that effect.

Further and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


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